GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2140
ANSWERED ON:18.03.2002
DEVELOPED TECHNOLOGY FOR FARMERS OF BIHAR
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken any steps for transfer of newly developed technology by Indian and foreign scientists to the farmers of Bihar as also to motivate the farmers to make use of the advance technology to boost their production;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government and Universities are imparting any training to the farmers and conducting field demonstrations for their benefit;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the measures being taken by the Government to boost production of foodgrains in Bihar?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): The steps taken for transfer of newly developed technologies to the farmers include the following:-

(i) The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has established Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) in fourteen districts of Bihar viz., Munger, Banka, Saharsa, Begusarai, Barh, Nalanda,Seikhpura, Vaishali, Muzaffarpur, Bhojpur, Nawadah, Kaimur (Bhabua), Jamui and Madhubani. During the year 2001, these KVKs organized various training programmes with 26,727 participantsincluding farmers, farm women and rural youths. Besides, 1185 field demonstrations were conducted on various oilseeds, pulses and other important crops in order to establish the production potentials on the farmers` plots.

(ii) The Department of Agriculture & Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture is implementing theInnovations in Technology Dissemination component of the World Bank funded National Agricultural Technology Project (NATP) in the State of Bihar apart from six other States in the country. Under the project new institutional arrangements for transfer of newly developed technology are operationalized by establishing Agricultural Technology Management Agencies (ATMAs) as an autonomous bodies at district level in 4 districts selected on agro-ecological conditions namely − Muzaffarpur, Madhubani and Munger. The process of establishment of ATMA in Rural Patna, the fourth district is in progress. These ATMAs represent the participation of the stakeholders responsible for transfer of technology to the farmers. Also Block Technology Teams (BTTs) and Farmer Advisory Committees (FACs) at blocks have been set-up in the project districts and Farmers Interest Groups (FIGs) are being formed at village level to achieve integrated farmerresponsive and speedy transfer of newly developed technology.

(iii) A Centrally Sponsored Oilseed Production Programme (OPP) is in implementation in theState of Bihar for increasing the production of oilseeds. Under the Scheme, some of the components like demonstrations, front line demonstration by ICAR, demonstration by States, training of farmers and distribution of seed minikits etc. provide effective transfer of latest and improved production technologies to the oilseed farmers in order to boost their production of oilseeds in the State.

(iv) A Centrally Sponsored Integrated Cereals Development Programme in the Rice basedCropping Systems Areas (ICDP-Rice) is being implemented in Bihar through macro management mode wherein propagation of improved production technology through different types of demonstration and transfer of crop production technologies through training of farmers including women is being supported.

(v) Under the programmes of Coconut Development Board assistance is extended to farmersthrough the State Agriculture Department/State Agriculture Universities/ICAR Institutes for conducting demonstration on integrated farming in Coconut holdings.

(vi) Under the Government of India Scheme `Agricultural Extension through VoluntaryOrganizations, 3 Non-Government Organizations have been supported in the districts of Nawada, Nalanda and Muzaffarpur for carrying out transfer of technologies to the farmers of Bihar.

(vii) The Ministry of Agriculture also support the State for organization of Farmers-Scientistsinteractions at the district level and exposure visits of the farmers to the agriculturally developed areas.

(viii) Extension through vernacular print media is being supported to supplement extension efforts together with organization of kisan melas through the State Agricultural University.

(c): Yes, Sir.

(d)&(e): The Government and Universities are involved in training to the farmers andconducting field demonstration for their benefit as per details given below:-

(i) Under the Central Sector Scheme on Human Resource Development in Horticulture, the Rajendra Agriculture University, Samistipur has been identified for imparting training of gardeners.

(ii) Under Zero tillage seed drill scheme some districts like Darbhanga, Gaya, Begusarai,Patna, Nalanda, Bhojpur, Samastipur, Rohtas, Muzaffarpur, Vaishali etc. have been taken up by Agriculture Department of Bihar in collaboration with Rajendra Agricultural University Scientists.

(iii) A number of Schemes have been taken up by the State Government to boost up ofproduction of foodgrains in Bihar, namely (1) ICDP, (2) IPM, (3) Strengthening and development ofAgriculture Extension, (4) Information Technology Management, (5)Sugarcane Development Scheme, (6) NPDP, (7) CPP, (8) AMDP, (9) Integrated Nutrient Management, (10) HorticultureDevelopment Scheme, (11) Special Jute Development Scheme, (12) Mechanization of AgricultureFarm and Machines, (13) National Watershed Development Scheme, (14) Tal Area Development Scheme, (15) Diera Development Scheme.

(iv) The State Government has also planned to train 4000 para extension workers under MacroManagement Mode scheme who will work in each village of the State for transfer of technology to the farmers to boost foodgrain production.